

THE RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION

September 2000 Newsletter

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Late Summer Greetings!

And what a spectacular week, with sunshine, and hundreds of flowers still blooming and many goldfish, orange, white, black, silver, patterned, swimming in two little ponds. Can you take a break? Of course, you can, on Monday, September 18th, 7:30 pm, at the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, RVAA will host watercolorist Al Grafke, thanks to Program Chairwoman Debbie Tintle. A member of the New Jersey Water Color Society and multi-award winner, Al is an accomplished demonstrator you're sure to enjoy. Al has very kindly offered to donate his demo piece to RVAA, so you'll definitely want to bring some dollars to get in this delightful raffle.

Looking ahead, our October 16th meeting will bring a slide show and talk on the Impressionists of Pennsylvania, by Thomas Folk, the noted art historian and appraiser. Thomas will also have his newest book, on the Impressionists of Pennsylvania, available for autograph purchases.

September means it's Dues-Paying-Time. Yes, indeedy, either mail your checks made out to RVAA to Membership Chairman, Doug Axmann, 16 Schoolhouse Lane, Somerville, NJ, 08876, or bring them to the September meeting, please. Dues are Individual \$22.; Family \$28.; Student (through high school) \$10. For this you get all your demos, your slideshows, the big library holiday show, usually a spring show or other show opportunities, your newsletter, and even a chance at an occasional workshop (Ruth Wilson said she would do one soon).

We are very sorry that one of our most well-liked and respected members just died. Anyone who goes to our meetings or shows knew John Spitzmiller. John was our Hospitality/Coffee/Cookies Chairman, but even without the title John exuded hospitality. We all will miss his friendly smiles and great sense of humor. We'll also miss seeing all the terrific watercolors John kept on producing, and his help at every single show, where he did a lot of the high-up, hard hanging. Our sympathies and prayers go out to Joan Spitzmiller and all of John's family. We also give our sympathy and prayers to RVAA member Ellen Vreeland, whose husband Jim, a renowned architect, died this summer (among other projects, Jim designed the first

drive-through bank in NJ!)

En plein air painting interest you? You might remember from the May NEWSLETTER that Don Nathan is the Facilitator for these (free) great opportunities to paint with other artists at interesting places. You may call Don at 973-966-5484, or Fax at 973-966-5481 for more info.

Slides will be returned at the September meeting to those RVAA members who submitted them for inclusion in a possible RVAA show at the 1860 House, Montgomery Cultural Center, in Skillman. The show has been made a reality as President Linda Arnold submitted them with the necessary paper work and the 1860 House is happy to have those artists who tried out. And so, "Celebrations in Paint!" Raritan Valley Arts Represented, will hang Nov.6, have an opening reception Nov. 11 and run through December 28th. For those of you who didn't try out, don't worry; we'll have our big Holiday Show at the Somerset County Library for the month of December.

Eleanor Leutheuser, a longtime member of RVAA, is having to give up her painting and so Eleanor wants to sell her art supplies, mainly having to do with oil painting, and her frames, very inexpensively, from her condo in Bedminster, 908-781-0696. Her husband also has 10,000 records which he is selling.

#### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

LINDA ARNOLD had her work accepted into the juried AAPL-NJ Show at the Papermill Playhouse and one of her pieces is shown in the AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST magazine, published in Washington, D.C.

Linda, together with Gay Billich, Carol Staub, and Linda Taffe, all had works accepted into the juried Associates NJWCS Show presently in the Atrium Gallery, Courthouse Building, Morristown.

LINDA BEAZLEY'S new address is 5 Blue Sky Trail, Travelers Rest, South Carolina, 29690, phone 864-836-8470. Linda is a member of the very active Upstate Visual Arts group and is checking into membership in the S.C. and N.C. Watercolor Societies. Linda's E-mail is linraybeaz@mindspring.com.

GAY BILLICH and CAROL STAUB are in the juried show "Two of a Kind", sponsored by the Sussex County Cultural & Heritage Commission in Newton. GAY won Best in Show for her work. All are invited to the Artist (closing) Reception in the Public Gallery, Sussex County Judicial Center, 43-47 High Street, Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 5-7, on the second floor. The show

has been open since July.

ANNE HAND won the Andrea Morrison Award for Best of Show from the Hunterdon Watercolor Society this year at their Members Show in June.

DIANA PATTON won First in Pro Watercolors at the Plainfield Tri-State Outdoor Arts Fest in July.

NONA RUTTER and DEBBIE SEYMOUR have a show of their work at the Bernardsville Library through the month of September. Their Opening Reception was on September 10th.

CAROL STAUB had work in the Rehoboth Art League's Show in Rehoboth, Delaware, and also had work in the Tideline Gallery in Hockessin, Delaware.

Now--YOU and I both KNOW you've news to send me--PLEASE DO!